

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/007,714

Examiner

Jaime W Corrigan

Applicant(s)

DINKEL ET AL.

Art Unit

3748

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Request for Reconsideration filed on 08 April 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 June 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 8-2-04.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Dennis Danella on 28 July 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 has been canceled.

5. (Currently Amended) A hydraulic manifold assembly for activation and deactivation of valves in a multiple-cylinder internal combustion engine having a pressurized oil source and hydraulically-operable deactivation valve lifters, comprising:

a) a first plate having on one side thereof a first mating surface formed in a first pattern delineating first portions of various oil flow galleries in said assembly;

b) a second plate having on one side thereof a second mating surface formed in a second pattern delineating second portions of said various oil flow galleries and matable with said first surface; and

c) a bonding zone including said first and second mating surfaces wherein said first and second plates are attached to each other, wherein at least one of said first and second plates is formed of a polymer and 5. (Original) A manifold assembly in

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~~accordance with Claim 1 further comprising a plurality of~~ at least one solenoid valves valve mounted on said second plate for variably and controllably regulating flow of oil to and from predetermined ones of said deactivation valve lifters.

In claim 2, page 2, line 1, "claim 1" has been changed to --claim 5--.

In claim 13, page 5, line 1, "claim 1" has been changed to --claim 5--.

In claim 16, page 5, line 1, "claim 1" has been changed to --claim 5--.

In claim 19, page 6, line 1, "claim 1" has been changed to --claim 5--.

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 20-22 to an invention non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 20-22 have been cancelled.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claimed combination including the limitations directed to a hydraulic manifold assembly with at least one polymer plate bonded to another plate and a solenoid valve for valve lifter control, is not disclosed nor rendered obvious over the art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Miller et al. (PN 6,068,370), Mielke et al. (PN 5,575,249), Quinn et al. (PN 5,528,272) disclose similar manifold assemblies.

Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Jaime Corrigan whose telephone number is (703) 308-2639. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. 2nd Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas E. Denion, can be reached on (703) 308-2623. The fax number for this group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0861.

JC

Jaime Corrigan

Jaime Corrigan
Patent Examiner

August 01, 2004

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Thomas Denion
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